



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
NATIONAL OCEAN SERVICE

Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary
299 Foam Street
Monterey, California 93940

July 10, 2002

Dear SAC Member:

As promised at our last Sanctuary Advisory Council meeting, I am enclosing the "National Marine Sanctuary Program Selection of Priority Issues to Address in the Joint Management Plan Review." This report presents the priority cross-cutting and site-specific resource management issues that we propose to address in the Joint Management Plan Review (JMPR). Staff developed these proposed priority issues after thorough analysis of the recommendations from the four workshops with the Sanctuary Advisory Council to prioritize issues and from internal review by the individual sanctuaries and national program staff.

This document characterizes all of the issues identified in the prioritization workshops and then identifies those issues we believe should be addressed as part of the management plan review. We recognize that in the prioritization workshops there were many views and interpretations of what constituted each issue and subsequently the priority with which it should be addressed. The characterizations of these issues in this document attempts to reflect those views and the assigned priority.

Please thoroughly review this document and be prepared to provide feedback at the next Advisory Council meeting. We hope and expect you, as SAC members, will discuss our intended priorities with the constituents in the community who you represent. You all have provided a tremendous amount of effort and input into this process during the scoping and prioritization phases and we want to make sure we are "on the right track". We are looking for your advice to help us determine whether we accurately characterized the priority issues and to ensure that we accurately captured the assigned priority.

As the preface to the is report indicates, a reality we are still struggling with is whether or not we have sufficient staff and other resources to adequately address these priority issues. Therefore, the advice you provide will help us to develop a realistic draft work plan that details precisely how the issues will be addressed, and which issues if need be, will be deferred to the future for resolution.

I look forward to see you at the next Advisory Council meeting. Please feel free to call Sean Morton or myself at (831) 647-4201 if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

William J. Douros
Superintendent

